BRUNETTI'S MODEL OF ANCIENT JERUSALEM.

A visit to this very interesting model, in Piccadilly, will be found to give a lasting enjoyment; clear ideas are gained of places and events described in the holy writings; and facts, all-important for mankind, are fixed in the mind more indelibly by an hour's examination of it than would be done by a month's reading. Of all localities Jerusalem has the strongest claims upon our attention,—"that city, where, of old, Jehovah dwelt,—where David sung,—and where Jesus suffered." To have its walls and gates and buildings,—the scene of the crucifixion, the Temple, the pool of Bethesda,—brought tangibly before us at our own doors, is a great advantage for which many thanks are due to the artist who produced this model. Like all similar works, the first view of it disappoints, but after a little time, the mind becomes accustomed to the scale, and the various objects, viewed relatively, grow into importance.

Admitting the difficulty of the work, and recognizing as we have done the ability with which, generally, it is executed, we are nevertheless compelled to find fault with the architectural appearance given to the Temple: it has all the character of a cinquecento Italian building, none of the Temple raised by Herod. Mr. Brunetti would do well to cancel it.

The site of the new protestant church about to be built on Zion, by Mr. Johns, is pointed out by a small block of stone from the spot, placed there by the architect himself.

ENGRAVINGS.

Mr. George Raphael Ward has just now completed two engravings in mezzotinto, which will tend to advance his reputation. One of the two is of Mr. Mackenzie, the well-known railway contractor, in Paris, and the other of the venerable Archdeacon Thorp, Warden of Durham University.* The first is from a picture painted by Mr. T. H. Illidge, and presented to Mrs. Mackenzie by public subscription in Paris, Dec. 31, 1846. The second is from a painting by Mr. J. R. Swinton, and is to our minds by far the best work. The head is exceedingly well executed, and the general effect artistical and good. They are both rather dark picture prints: when it is remembered, however, that the chief excellence of mezzotinto is exhibited in shadows and not in lights, which present much difficulty, and often appear cold and poor when compared with the lights in a line engraving, even when treated with the greatest skill, the reason is obvious. Most of our readers probably are aware that in mezzotinto engraving, the whole ground of the plate is at first black, and the lights are produced by scraping away and burnishing parts of the surface: whereas, in a line engraving, the ground is white, and the lines and shadows are formed upon it by the "graver."

Fall of more Old Houses.—The metropolis is being gradually purged of its old and crazy edifices, happily without any great fatality. The fall of two of these we had very recently occasion to notice, and since then three more have fallen, one in Ratcliffe and two in Kent-street, Southwark; by which latter, however, seven lives were placed in imminent jeopardy, although they all escaped with almost miraculous impunity. Besides the one at Ratcliffe, four others there have been shored up until razed to the ground, which they are forthwith to be. The two at Southwark, as well as these, have been long under the surveillance of the district surveyors, or at least long known to have been in a very crazy condition, although poverty has tempted many poor people, knowingly, to risk their lives in them, in order to save their rents.

Battersea new Church.—A new Church to hold 800 persons on the ground floor, is about to be built at Battersea, Surrey, near the Princes' Head. The plan is cruciform, with a tower and spire at the north-west angle; the style, decorated gothic of the date Edward III. The builders are now making their estimates, and it will be commenced in about a month. Messrs. Lee and Bury are the architects.

* Published by the Engraver, 31, Fitzroy Square.

Correspondence.

new plotting scale for surveyors.

Sir,—Perceiving in your number of the 6th instant a communication by Mr. Edward Blake, wherein he gives an explanation and illustration of a surveyor's plotting scale devised by him, I beg to forward you a drawing of one invented by me, and laid before the Committee on Mechanics of the Society of Arts, on the 3rd of April, 1845, to which his scale bears an extraordinary similarity.

Although the invention is not one of very high importance, I am of opinion that it is fair that the inventor should in every case claim his due, and that proper acknowledgment should be made where there is a title to it. However, I should not have troubled you in the matter, but that Mr. Blake's scale appears faulty in several respects as compared with the one previously in use. The most important is the impossibility of using more than one offset scale to the same line scale; whereas in that which I have been in the habit of using, many line scales being marked at the sides, and the groove being left open at the end, the different offset scales necessary from time to time may be introduced into the same frame.

There is a decided objection to the position of the brass pins in Mr. Blake's scale, as the paper is thereby injured in the very place where it should be most perfect, namely, on the measured line.*

Probably these suggestions may be of value to those of your readers who have not already had the original scale in use.

I am, Sir, &c., J. Murray.
H. M.'s Dockyard, Portsmouth,
Feb. 16th, 1847.

Miscellanea.

Soup-Kitchens for the Poor.—The scheme for the erection of soup-kitchens for the poor, which is considered to have some merit apart from the cheap preparation of soup, lately questioned, is likely to be extensively acted upon, not only in Ireland, where Mr. Soyer is about to superintend the working of his scheme under the direction of Government, but also in London, and many parts of England. The building originally projected by Mr. Soyer, for which the plan first laid before the Government was arranged by Mr. Edward Hall, architect, has a central area, of square form, in which are a boiler, a large pan, tables, and every convenience for preparing the ingredients. The soup is finally made in large oblong pans, ranged round the area, and beyond these is a passage for the attendants, who can thus readily serve out the soup into basins fixed in a frame, which forms the other side of the same passage. The liquid in these pans is heated by steam from the boiler. The building is enclosed on the four sides, a narrow space being left for the poor, and much attention seems to have been paid to prevent confusion. It will be covered with canvass. This plan has since been modified in size, and in some details. The present scarcity renders such schemes worthy of examination, although it may be questioned by many whether they are free from injurious results. At Manchester and Liverpool, soup-kitchens, on an extensive scale, have been sometime in operation.

Effect of Frost on Stone.—Sir,—In passing through Clifton some time since, I observed a circumstance that I think ought to be generally known to builders. It was after the late frosts. Some new balconies had been put up about nine months before, and some of the parties had taken the precaution of painting the bottoms and edges with several coats of paint. The consequence was that the water falling on the top lodged in the stone (the paint preventing an outlet), and froze there, and the result was that it burst the lower part, which fell off, paint and all, in large spawles, very much to the danger of the passers by.—Yours, &c. H.

The Regent's Canal Company's Bill.—The Government having refused assent to this bill, the second reading has been postponed at the request of its promoters, to enable them to submit some modifications to the House.

* In Murray's scale the ends are elongated to receive a lead weight instead of a pin.—Ed.

Projected Works, &c.—Advertisements have been issued for contract-tenders for the various works necessary in erection of church at Congleton; improvement of church in Cornwall; partial razing and rebuilding of church at Wolsingham, and erection of school at Towlaw (extension of time); partial rebuilding and restoring of church at Trowbridge; alteration and erection of farm-offices, cottages, &c., near Edinburgh; excavation, masonry, &c., of aqueduct and main pipes, cast-iron sluices, cocks, and other metal works, and a quantity of 20-inch cast-iron and other pipes, all for Bristol Water Works; the various usual ordnance works in masonry, carpentry, &c. &c. at Dorchester, Weymouth, Trowbridge, and Sheffield barracks, and Portland Castle; the working of limestone, and other quarries or hauling-stone for repair of roads in Herefordshire; 600 cubic yards of good Kentish rock-stone, at Rochester; repair of pavements, for 5 years, at Portsea; large supply of stock bricks at Cowes; various works necessary in formation of 9 miles of Newport and Hereford Railway; 3 miles of Glasgow and Ayr, &c.; 11 miles and 9 miles of London and North-Western; 21 miles and 4 miles of Glasgow and Dumfries; and for erection of a bridge at Dumbarton; Cast-iron Viaduct at Liverpool; stations, warehouses, 8 cottages and walls, on London and Brighton Railway; also for a quantity of railway bars at York Station, and 6,500 tons of malleable iron rails, 1,650 tons of cast-iron chairs, and 70,000 sleepers, for Caledonian and Dumbarton Junction Railway; for the erection of Archbishop Parker's Grammar Schools at Rochdale; and the Walworth Literary and Scientific Institution; and for building sewers in Camden Town and Whitechapel.

Continental Glass Manufactories.—The first window-glass manufactory in the province of Hainault commenced in 1625, soon after which two others followed, and there are now no fewer than thirty-six houses in full blast: sixteen work eight pots, employing 128 blowers; twenty-six with six pots, and 120 blowers; thirty-six with three stokers; thirty-six glass cutters and fifteen potters—the total cost being 43,384*l.* per annum. There are five new glass-houses being built for 1847, and two new companies forming to commence extensive works in every description of glass. The quantity of coal, charcoal, sand, &c., used in glass manufacture, is immense.

Mr. Collins, R.A.—The death of Mr. Collins must be regarded as a great loss by all lovers of art. His beautiful representations of nature, suffused with tender sentiment, will be missed on the walls of the Royal Academy. He had been twenty-seven years an Academician, and was in the fifty-ninth year of his age.

Competition.—Fifteen pounds, and employment at the usual commission in superintendence of works, are offered for the best plan of a town-hall and other buildings at Yeovil, Somerset.

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES

During the ensuing Week.

Monday, March 1st.—Archæological Institute, 25, Great George-street, 4 P.M.

Tuesday, 2nd.—Institution of Civil Engineers, 25, Great George-street, 8 P.M.

Wednesday, 3rd.—Association of Architectural Draughtsmen, 33, Southampton-street, 8½ P.M.; Society of Arts, Adelphi, 8 P.M.

Thursday, 4th.—Royal Society, Somerset House, 8½ P.M.; Society of Antiquaries, Somerset House, 8 P.M.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*C.R.*"—A reply would occupy more time than we can spare.

"*A Youngster*" will find the information he wants in our present number.

"*B.A.*"—Old travellers say one pound per day will carry you any where but over England. A stay in any one place, of course, lessens the expense. Cost of travelling depends greatly on management.

"*W.A.*" (Rochester).—Mr. Henry Shaw (37, Southampton-row) has published a work containing what our correspondent wants.

"*G.H.*" (New Town.)—We do not know that the details of the window in question are published.

"*E.D.*" (Pimlico).—Will our correspondent send us the extract he alludes to.

"*J.L.C.*"—Shall appear.

"*A Londoner*" is unavoidably postponed till next week.

"*Brickbat*" next week.

"*J.W.*"—Ditto.

Received.—"W.G." (Ryde). "W.G.P." "B.T." "M.S." "C.G.G." "Jackplane." "H.H." (Brockley). "H.C.L."

"*Books, Prices, and Addresses.*"—We have not time to point out books or find addresses.

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